

And they said, " Not so, indeed, my Lord, for our father has twelve sons, and we ten he sent to Egypt to buy corn ; and one of the remaining is dead, and the youngest is at home with his father this day." And Joseph answered, " It is well that you have given this description of your family for now (by the life of Pharaoh) ye shall be proved by this circumstance, and I shall know whether there is any truth in you." And he called to one of his guards, and ordered him to conduct them to prison ; and having put them all into one dungeon, they were shut up, and were fed with the common allowance of prisoners. One remark seems necessary here, upon the conversation of Joseph. It is to be feared, that his connections in Egypt had a tendency to draw him into very loose bits, or at least he seems to have conformed much to the prevailing conversation of the court. Hence, in his last speech to his brethren, he asserts what he says, with the forcible expression

By the life of Pharaoh, as a vain oath, which is forbidden to be used. A may be of use, to teach the importance of precaution as well as in their actions. We need not their unfeigned distress which we left them. Reuben began with upbraiding them in their malice against the Lord was now about a unanimous transaction, though time. Their malice, and their conscience. Under the most gloomy and the dawn of their distress. Joseph visited their dungeon, speaking of their family

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